



FAX COVER SHEET

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Comments:

Close the loopholes in the Pasture Requirements and go with the livestock committee's recommendations for pasture and Enforce them. The meat from the organic animals I raise on pasture is chemically and nutritionally different from that on an animal raised in confinement, fed organic feed, but never grazed—and yet still called organic. Let's keep a level playing field for all organic farmers. If a farmer can't show in an organic system plan how their animals can get significant portions of their feed from pasture as explained in your pasture requirements, then THEY AREN'T ORGANIC. I have some neighbors who would need maybe two years to get a pasture up to speed. Give them that time. Work with farmers who are trying, but don't allow farmers to skirt the rule completely like is happening now. BE TOUGH! True organic farmers want it this way because they know it is the right way. People who eat the food want to know you are keeping the rules tough for them too. Adopt and enforce!!!